1: Holmberg--77 (1941-42) 1950 Siriono
866

"If there is a general theory of education, it can hardly be more than the necessary one of gradually teaching the child to be as independent as possible of his family, so that by the time he has reached the age of maturity he will be able to shift for himself."

1: Holmberg--78 [3] (1941-42) 1950 Siriono
116, 857, 866

"At about the age of 3, although still largely dependent upon his parents, the child begins to stray from the family fire—to play with other children, and to learn those habits which gradually increase his self-reliance and lessen his dependency on the family. His first contacts with people of his own age are generally those with his half brothers, half sisters, and his cousins, who are not only closely related to him genealogically but spatially as well, since the extended family tends to cluster together in the house. A child's first play group, in fact, seldom contains members outside of his extended family. As he grows older, children of the same sex and age from other extended families join the play group, so that at puberty there is usually not more than one play group for each sex in the entire band. Since the local group is small, play groups seldom contain over five or six members."

868

868 TRANSMISSION OF SKILLS--acquisition of language; teaching children to walk and swim; techniques for inculcating manual dexterity and technological skills; teaching and learning of economic skills appropriate to each sex; informal instruction in occupational skills; acquisition of artistic skills (e.g., playing of musical instruments); relative importance of imitation, practice, and instruction in the transmission of skills; etc. See also:

Language	19	Motor habits	516
Fine arts	53	Athletic sports	528
Division of labor by sex	462	Military training	702
Occupational specialization	463	Age at walking and talking	856
Locomotion	481	Formal vocational education	874

1: Holmberg--35 [2] (1941-42) 1950 Siriono
116, 252, 868

"Cooking is an art learned very early in life. When traveling with his mother and father, a child is often given a cob of corn to roast, some motacú fruits to roast, or a morsel of viscera to cook for himself. In fact, whenever animals are being cut up, there are always young children (as often boys as girls) around, waiting for some tidbit, which they then take to a fire and roast for themselves. Such morsels they share with no one else."

1: Holmberg--43-44 (1941-42) 1950 Siriono
116, 153, 481, 868

"When all other methods prove to be of no avail in crossing a river or a stream, swimming is resorted to. The Siriono are excellent swimmers. They swim with a crawl stroke, as well as 'dog fashion'. In spite of the abundance of palometas and alligators, every child of 8 knows how to swim.

Finally, it should be mentioned that in crossing deep rivers or streams, people usually cover their genitals with one hand so as to protect them from the palometas which infest all of these waters. [44] They also step with care so as to avoid sting rays, whose stabs leave nasty wounds."

1: Holmberg--45-46 (1941-42) 1950 Siriono
116, 535, 622, 868

"Everyone knows how to dance and to sing some songs. Since the rhythm of the dance consists merely in the stamping of feet, there is no problem in learning to dance. Young people are often observed forming a dance circle in imitation of their parents. Although all adults know how to sing some songs, certain individuals are known [46] to be more skillful in composing songs than others. Such people usually take the lead in the dances and play the most prominent role in the singing that accompanies drinking feasts. It may be significant that in the two extended families which I knew well, both of the chiefs were prominent singers. But although they often took the role as leaders, other individuals equally gifted also frequently assumed the same role. There are no professionals—no persons who are always called upon to sing at a drinking feast or to chant at a curing rite."

1: Holmberg--79-80 (1941-42) 1950 Siriono
116, 224, 858, 868

"At about the age of 8, a boy begins to accompany his father on the hunt. This is really the beginning of his serious education as a hunter. Until this time most of his hunting has been confined to the immediate environs of the hut. When a boy first starts to accompany his father, he makes only about one excursion per week, but as he gradually becomes hardened to the jungle, his trips away from camp become more frequent and of longer duration. On these expeditions the boy gradually learns when, where, and how to track and stalk game. His father allows him to take easy shots, so as to reinforce his interest in hunting. The boy is given light loads of game to carry in from the jungle, and if he kills an animal of any importance, such as a peccary or coati, he is decorated with feathers like a mature hunter. During all this time, of course, he is also learning to make bows and arrows and to repair those which have been broken on the hunt. Hence, by the time a boy has reached the age of 12, he is already a full-fledged hunter and is able to sup[80]ply a household of his own with game. At this age, girls, too, are ready for the responsibilities of adulthood."